

22 August 1957

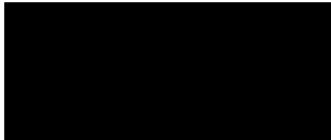
Chief, Economic Research Area

Chief, Materials Division, CIA

Meeting on External Research Regarding USSR Atomic Energy Program

1. The meeting was held on 21 August 1957 at 1000 in the office of the Chief, D/M. Present were:

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OSI
D/M
D/M
D/I

The meeting was arranged primarily to discuss a proposed research contract on USSR capabilities for producing compressors for the Soviet Atomic Energy Program.

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2. [redacted] stated his understanding, resulting from a meeting with Dr. Guthe, [redacted], that OSI was taking responsibility for monitoring an external research project of power reactors. He then outlined a contract presently being signed for a research project initiated by OSI. [redacted]

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- [redacted] now doing contract research in Florida, is being asked to prepare a study on power reactor technology in the USSR. Just what the limits of this study will be is not clear, but the study apparently will go into the technical characteristics of Soviet power reactors, e.g., what kinds of moderators are used; what kinds of heat exchangers; how do these compare with the U.S.; etc. [redacted] said that this study was conceived as a companion piece to the study we have been discussing on the economic factors involved in the development of Free World atomic power programs. The undersigned thanked [redacted] for the information and briefly brought him up-to-date on the state of development of our project [redacted] (memo's 25X1A5a1 of 14 and 15 August 1957 to SA/ER from Chief, D/M).

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3. [redacted] stated that the contribution of [redacted] to the atomic energy estimate last December had provided several new leads on possible research. One of these was a possible external research project for the selective exploitation of Soviet literature on the design and production of compressors (centrifugal or axial) suitable for the gaseous diffusion process. The study would be in three

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SUBJECT: Meeting on External Research regarding USSR Atomic Energy Program

parts: (1) the personalities involved, (2) the institutions and organizations involved, and (3) the state of compressor technology. It had been hoped that a compressor expert with language capabilities could be found, but none has shown up. A tentative arrangement has, however, been worked out to have the translation and the identification of personalities and organizations undertaken.

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Since the study is to provide leads for further exploitation, it is needed by next spring in order to permit its use prior to the next major NIE effort. [REDACTED] is therefore anxious to formalize these arrangements within the next two weeks.

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4. In the absence of [REDACTED], who is on leave, it was agreed that I/MM would begin a bibliography of translated and untranslated material relating to the problem. Meanwhile, [REDACTED] will endeavor to supply I/MM with more precise limits on the types of compressors involved in terms of capacity and corrosion resistance.

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Distribution:

Orig. and 1 - Ch/E
1 - D/I
1 - I/MM
1 - I/MR
2 - D/M
1 - M/S

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ORR:D/M: [REDACTED]:Mar/3011 (22 Aug 57)

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